

Assignment-1

1. Let $f(x) = e^x \cos 2x$.

(a) Find $T_4(x)$, the degree-4 Taylor polynomial of $f(x)$ centered at $x = 0$.

The definition of the Taylor polynomial is as follows:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(x - x_0)^k}{k!} f^{(k)}(x_0)$$

In this case, $n = 4$, and $x_0 = 0$.

We start by finding $f^{(1)}(x)$, $f^{(2)}(x)$, $f^{(3)}(x)$, and $f^{(4)}(x)$

$$f^{(1)}(x) = -2e^x \sin(2x) + e^x \cos(2x) = e^x(\cos(2x) - 2\sin(2x))$$

$$f^{(2)}(x) = e^x(-2\sin(2x) - 4\cos(2x)) + e^x(\cos(2x) - 2\sin(2x)) = -e^x(4\sin(2x) + 3\cos(2x))$$

$$f^{(3)}(x) = -e^x(8\cos(2x) - 6\sin(2x)) - e^x(4\sin(2x) + 3\cos(2x)) = e^x(2\sin(2x) - 11\cos(2x))$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = e^x(4\cos(2x) + 2\sin(2x)) + e^x(2\sin(2x) - 11\cos(2x)) = e^x(24\sin(2x) - 7\cos(2x))$$

Evaluating these functions at the center point, we get:

$$f(0) = e^0 \cos(0) = 1$$

$$f^{(1)}(0) = e^0(\cos(0) - 2\sin(0)) = 1$$

$$f^{(2)}(0) = -e^0(4\sin(0) + 3\cos(0)) = -3$$

$$f^{(3)}(0) = e^0(2\sin(0) - 11\cos(0)) = -11$$

$$f^{(4)}(0) = -e^0(24\sin(0) - 7\cos(0)) = -7$$

We now have all the pieces we need to determine the polynomial expansion.

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(x) &= \frac{x^0}{0!} f(0) + \frac{x^1}{1!} f^{(1)}(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f^{(2)}(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f^{(3)}(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{(4)}(0) \\ &= 1 + x - \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{11}{6}x^3 - \frac{7}{24}x^4 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find the derivative form of the remainder $R_4(x)$ in the expression

$$f(x) - T_4(x) = R_4(x).$$

By definition, the derivative form of the remainder is

$$R_n(x) = \frac{(x - x_0)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} f^{(n+1)}(c)$$

where c is close to x_0 .

In this case, we have $n = 4$, $x_0 = 0$ from the previous question.

$$\begin{aligned}
R_n(x) &= \frac{x^5}{5!} f^{(5)}(c) \\
f^{(5)}(c) &= e^x (48\cos(2x) + 14\sin(2x)) + e^x (24\sin(2x) - 7\cos(2x)) \\
&= e^x (41\cos(2x) + 38\sin(2x)) \Big|_{x=c}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$R_4(x) = \frac{x^5}{120} e^c (41\cos(2c) + 38\sin(2c))$$

- (c) Suppose that $f(x)$ is approximated by $T_4(x)$ in the interval $x \in [-\pi/4, \pi/4]$. Find a bound on the absolute error of the approximation.

We know the remainder, $R_4(x)$ from part (c). Given a closed interval, we can find the maximum error by finding the maximum of $f^{(5)}(x)$ in this interval. To do this, we must find its derivative. Its zeroes will show all maxima and minima.

$$f^{(6)}(x) = e^x (-82\sin(2x) + 76\cos(2x)) + e^x (41\cos(2x) + 38\sin(2x)) = e^x (117\cos(2x) - 44\sin(2x))$$

Now find zeroes.

$$e^x (117\cos(2x) - 44\sin(2x)) = 0$$

$$117\cos(2x) - 44\sin(2x) = 0$$

$$\frac{117}{44} = \frac{\sin(2x)}{\cos(2x)}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{117}{44}\right) \approx 0.606$$

Our candidate points are then $\{-\frac{\pi}{4}, 0.606, \frac{\pi}{4}\}$

$$f(-\frac{\pi}{4}) = e^{-\frac{\pi}{4}} \cos(-\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0 = f(\frac{\pi}{4})$$

$$f(0.606) = e^{0.606} \cos(2 * 0.606) \approx 0.645$$

As $f(0.606)$ is clearly the max, this is what we use for determining the error bound.

$$f^{(5)}(0.606) \approx$$

- (d) Using Matlab, plot $f(x)$ and $T_4(x)$ on the same graph for $x \in [-\pi/4, \pi/4]$. On a second graph plot the absolute error $|f(x) - T_4(x)|$, again for $x \in [-\pi/4, \pi/4]$. Check if the error does indeed obey the bound you found in part (c) above.
- (Pencil-and-paper) Convert the binary number $10.\overline{110}$ to base 10. Give the answer both as a decimal and a fraction if you can.
 - (Pencil-and-paper) Express $x = 6.7$ as an IEEE single-precision float $\text{fl}(x)$ using the round-to-nearest rule. Compute the relative error $d = |x - \text{fl}(x)|/|x|$ exactly as a base-10 number, and show that d satisfies $d \leq (1/2)\epsilon_{mach}$.
 - (Pencil-and-paper and MATLAB) Holmes 1.5(a).
 - (Pencil-and-paper and MATLAB) Holmes 1.12.
 - (Pencil-and-paper, adapted from Holmes Problem 1.16.) Assume single-precision IEEE arithmetic. Assume that the round-to-nearest rule is used with one modification: if there is a tie then the smaller value is picked (this rule for ties is used to make the problem easier).
 - For what real numbers x will the computer claim that the inequalities $1 < x < 2$ hold?
 - For what real numbers x will the computer claim $x = 4$?

- (c) Suppose it is stated that there is a floating point number x^* that is the exact solution of $x^2 - 2 = 0$. Why is this not possible? Also, suppose x_L^* and x_R^* are the floats to the left and right of $\sqrt{2}$ respectively. What is the value of $x_R^* - x_L^*$?
7. (a) A problem is ill-conditioned if its solution is highly sensitive to small changes in the input data. True or False?
- (b) Using higher-precision arithmetic will make an ill-conditioned problem better conditioned. True or False?
- (c) If two real numbers are exactly representable as floating-point numbers on a finite-precision machine, then so is their product. True or False?
- (d) Consider the sum

$$S = \frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x-1}, \quad x \neq 1.$$

For what range of values is it difficult to compute S accurately in a finite-precision system? How will you rearrange the terms in S so that the difficulty disappears?

- (e) In a finite-precision system with $\text{UFL} = 10^{-40}$, which of the following operations will incur an underflow?
- i. $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, with $a = 1$, $b = 10^{-25}$.
 - ii. $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, with $a = b = 10^{-25}$.
 - iii. $(a \times b)/(c \times d)$, with $a = 10^{-20}$, $b = 10^{-25}$, $c = 10^{-10}$, $d = 10^{-35}$.